

REMARKS

Claims 3-11 and 13-15 have been amended. Claims 1, 2, 12 and 16 have been cancelled. Claims 3-11 and 3-15 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The objection and rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

1-2. Claims 1, 2, 12 and 16 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being obvious in view of the U.S. Patent 5,490,165 to Blakeney et al (hereinafter "Blakeney").

Claims 1, 2, 12 and 16 have been cancelled.

3. The new grounds of rejection are noted.

4. The indication that claims 3-11 and 13-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is noted and appreciated.

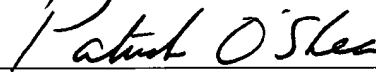
Claims 3, 6, 7, 13 and 15 have been rewritten to independent form, and it is respectfully submitted that these claims are now in condition for allowance.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 3-11 and 13-15 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please

call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patrick O'Shea", written over a horizontal line.

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